

**From:** Sam Hill  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 7:36am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

To date all of the remedies proposed in the anti-trust trial against Microsoft have fallen woefully short in punishing, or preventing further monopolistic behavior by a corporation that has demonstrated itself to be uncaring to the consumers it serves.

I submit that the most reasonable course to take would be trifold.

1) Fines must be levied: This would demonstrate that the DOJ and the American public hold Microsoft accountable for their past actions. As a company with over 30 billion dollars in cash reserves, any amount up to 8 billion dollars would serve to get their attention, while not amounting to a hardship to the company. These fines would be paid out within 5 years, with no provisions to extend the payment period allowed.

2) Open the code: Closed systems become poisoned systems, this is a fundamental truth in biology and applies to other systems as well. For more than a decade Microsoft has had ample opportunity to address fundamental issues with their computer operating system, including stability and security, and they have steadfastly refused to do so. The only way to insure that these, and other issues, are addressed, is to open their system to peer review. Only then will users enjoy stability, security and innovation in their daily computing experience once again.

3) Divorce Microsoft from the punishment phase of the proceedings: That they have been allowed to define and influence them is ludicrous, and has cast aspersions on the entire trial. Does a convicted felon get to tell the bench how s/he will serve their sentence? Get Microsoft and their lobbyists out of the way now and regain some measure of dignity to the proceedings.

The solutions are simple, their implementation complex, but time is of the essence. While the wheels of Justice are slow, the Internet and computer code are not. To allow more time to pass before assessing real punishment against Microsoft only gives the company additional opportunity to thumb it's nose at the proceedings, while fattening it's coffers and spinning the truth.

As an American citizen I ask that you take action on my behalf, today.

Sincerely,

Sam Hill  
Fort Worth, TX